GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:703
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2016
District Vigilance and Monitoring Committees
Sanjar Shri Alok

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had reviewed/proposes to review the working/ function of District Vigilance and Monitoring Committees involved in monitoring the implementation of Rural Development schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the outcome thereof, State/UT-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to strengthen the functioning of District Vigilance and Monitoring Committees?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a): The guidelines of the Vigilance and Monitoring Committees were revised in 2014 in view of the recommendations/observations made by the Parliament Standing Committee after examining the working of Vigilance and Monitoring Committees (VMCs). The guidelines were sent to all District authorities for implementation of revised guidelines. A copy of the guidelines was also sent to the Hon'ble MPs of both Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha and also uploaded in Ministry's website.

(b): The Ministry advised to all State / UTs for reconstitution of VMCs at district level in all the rural districts nominating Hon'ble elected Members of Parliament as Chairpersons / Co-Chairpersons, after the formation of XVI Lok Sabha, on 8.8.2014 and circulated to all the States / Districts and also uploaded in Ministry's website. The Vigilance and Monitoring Committees (VMC) are constituted at district levels to function as an important instrument for effective monitoring of implementation of the programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development with a crucial role for the Members of Parliament and elected representatives of people in State Legislatures in reviewing the implementation of the programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development. The primary responsibility of District level Vigilance & Monitoring Committee is to effectively monitor the implementation of the Schemes/ programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development as also cause to ensure that the funds are used for the purpose for which they are meant.

(c): As per the guidelines the district level VMC meeting should be held in every quarter on (i) Last Saturday of May; (ii) First Saturday of August; (iii) First Saturday of November; and (iv) First Saturday of February. The State Governments were reminded from time to time for regular meeting of VMCs and upload the agenda, MOM etc. in the Ministry's website. Letters from Secretary (RD) to Chief Secretaries of all the States/UT Administration issued on 15th May, 2015
and again on 5th November, 2015 to instruct the District Collectors to hold the District level VMC meetings as per the guidelines. Additional Secretary(RD) has also requested Principal Secretary(RD) of all the States on 3rd December, 2015 to instruct the District Collectors to hold the District level VMC meetings as per the guidelines. Such letters from Adviser (Stat) were issued on 28th November, 2014, 17th March, 2015 and 25th April, 2016.

It is also emphasized in the Performance Review Committee (PRC) meeting held on 18th and 19th September, 2014, 13th and 14th January, 2015 and 8th and 9th July, 2015.

*****